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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,383	02/01/2005	Karolien Madeleine Michel De Bacre	BE 020017	3726

24737 7590 10/31/2006

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

KIM, KENNETH S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2111

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/523,383

Applicant(s)

DE BAERE, KAROLIEN
MADELEINE MICHEL

Examiner

Kenneth S. KIM

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

KENNETH S. KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date Sep 01 '05
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

1. Claims 1-16 are presented for examination.
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Keckler et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,574,939, submitted by the applicant.

Keckler et al teaches the invention as claimed in claim 1 including processor device for processing instructions, in particular very long instruction word (VLIW) instructions, comprising

(a) memory means for storing instruction words, each instruction word consisting of segments (70),

(b) fetching means for fetching instruction words from said memory means (col. 9, line 14),

(c) executing means for executing with instruction words fetched from said instructions in accordance fetching means (col. 8, line 60),

(d) characterized in that said fetching means is adapted to fetch essentially those segments of an instruction word (line i) only which contain relevant information (col. 9, line 20), and

further teaches as in claims 2-8,

(e) wherein said memory means is adapted to store non-compressed instructions words of a kind where the instruction words have the same code size density (28, 70; col. 9, line 20) – claims 2 and 3,

(f) said memory means comprises a plurality of memory portions wherein each memory portion is provided to store one segment of an instruction word, and said fetching means is adapted to access only which contain relevant information. those memory portions (col. 9, line 27) – claim 4,

(g) said memory means includes a plurality of lines, each line being provided for storing a complete instruction word, wherein said memory means is divided over all lines in accordance with different segments of the into memory units instruction words so that each memory unit is formed by memory portions for and/or kind storing instruction word segments of the same order (in the manner of fig. 1) – claims 5,6, and 8, and

(h) wherein each line of said memory means is divided into said memory of the instruction portions in accordance with different segments words so that each memory portion is provided for storing one segment of an instruction word (fig. 5) – claim 7.

The method claims 9-16 are equivalently rejected based on the same reason.

4. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hurd, U.S. Patent No. 6,442,701, submitted by the applicant.

Hurd teaches the invention as claimed in claim 1 including processor device for processing instructions, in particular very long instruction word (VLIW) instructions, comprising

(a) memory means for storing instruction words, each instruction word consisting of segments (12),

(b) fetching means for fetching instruction words from said memory means (col. 3, line 64),

(c) executing means for executing with instruction words fetched from said instructions in accordance fetching means (col. 3, line 22),

(d) characterized in that said fetching means is adapted to fetch essentially those segments of an instruction word (line i) only which contain relevant information (col. 6, line 33), and

further teaches as in claims 2-8,

(e) wherein said memory means is adapted to store non-compressed instructions words of a kind where the instruction words have the same code size density (fig. 6) – claims 2 and 3,

(f) said memory means comprises a plurality of memory portions wherein each memory portion is provided to store one segment of an instruction word, and said fetching means is adapted to access only which contain relevant information. those memory portions (col. 6, line 24) – claim 4,

(g) said memory means includes a plurality of lines, each line being provided for storing a complete instruction word, wherein said memory means is divided over all lines

in accordance with different segments of the into memory units instruction words so that each memory unit is formed by memory portions for and/or kind storing instruction word segments of the same order (fig. 6) – claims 5,6, and 8, and

(h) wherein each line of said memory means is divided into said memory of the instruction portions in accordance with different segments words so that each memory portion is provided for storing one segment of an instruction word (unit length cache line) – claim 7.

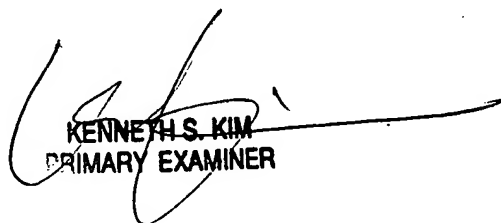
The method claims 9-16 are equivalently rejected based on the same reason.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth S KIM whose telephone number is (571) 272-3627. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-17:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (571) 272-3632. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for all communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

October 24, 2006


KENNETH S. KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER